

*The Marshals*

# MONITOR



December 2003-January 2004

## First-ever fugitive task force turns 20

### ***Eastern Pennsylvania celebrates with grand ceremony; TV host John Walsh becomes honorary U.S. marshal***

Twenty years ago in Philadelphia marked a new day in the history of federal law enforcement. The Marshals Service, wanting to share its resources and tap into the knowledge of local officers when chasing down wanted felons, formed the very first fugitive task force.

And that very same unit — the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force — is still going strong today.

### **Joining forces**

In 1983, the U.S. attorney general approved of creating the task force. It was originally meant to be a six-month endeavor. However, because the unit was so productive in finding and arresting criminals, it was extended

beyond its original end date.

“The success of the task force was so swift and so thorough that terminating it would have been a disservice to the citizens of [Philadelphia],” said Investigative Services Division Assistant Director Robert Finan.

The task force, supervised by the Marshals Service, has always had the same goal — to apprehend violent criminals who are the subjects of felony warrants. The agency also provides funding, information systems, office space, infrastructure support and perhaps the most important asset of all — the dedication and skills of its deputy marshals.

Over 20 agencies have served on the task force, with the Philadelphia Police Department and the Pennsylvania State Police serving as cornerstones.

Today, the Marshals Service supervises 73 task forces across the country and participates in another 59.

“Task forces work because you have the knowledge of many individuals coming together with a shared goal,”

said Director Reyna. “When law enforcement agencies work together, it vastly increases the chances of fugitive apprehensions.”

To date, the Eastern Pennsylvania Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force has arrested over 13,500 wanted fugitives, including 300 wanted for homicide.

The 20-year anniversary was marked by a ceremony in Philadelphia’s Benjamin Franklin House. Many luminaries were on hand to congratulate the task force.

Chief Inspector Jack Maxwell of the Philadelphia Police Department said, “The task force has never let us down. And I appreciate that.”

The Marshals Service used the occasion to make John Walsh, the host of FOX Television’s “America’s Most Wanted,” the ninth-ever honorary U.S. marshal.

Director Reyna praised Walsh for his help in fighting crime.

“The media is essential to the success of the law enforcement mission in our country,” he said.

Walsh looked out to the Marshals Service personnel in attendance and praised them.

“I think I represent the average American, and we appreciate what you do. You risk your lives going after the baddest of the bad ... and I thank you.”



*Television host John Walsh joined the ranks of former President Ronald Reagan and actor James Arness when the agency made him an honorary U.S. marshal for his work in capturing Marshals Service fugitives. Said Walsh: “I have a special place in my heart for the Marshals. This is a real honor.”*

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# In harm's way to defend precious freedom

## ***Marshals Service employees serve with distinction in the armed forces***

As the Marshals Service goes about its daily business of locating and arresting fugitives, protecting the federal judiciary, transporting prisoners, protecting witnesses and seizing forfeited property, a fair number of the agency's 4,600 employees are nowhere to be found.

That's because they are fulfilling their secondary career duties in the U.S. military during this international war on terrorism.

### **Standing tall**

This agency has long been staffed with operational and administrative employees who serve in military reserve units. Typically, these men and women take regularly scheduled time away from their Marshals Service jobs to honor their military commitments.

But in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the call-ups for this nation's military reservists intensified, and the demands on their personal and professional lives were anything but typical.

There are close to 375 military reservists throughout the Marshals Service, in both the districts and headquarters. Many of them have been activated during the past two and a half years and have either been deployed overseas or stationed stateside at military bases.

This war, from the standpoint of U.S. military manpower, has been comprised of three components, and Marshals Service reservists serve in each of them. The first is Operation Noble Eagle, which began Sept. 15, 2001. This ongoing operation involves homeland defense and civil support missions such as patrolling the skies above major American cities.

Next came Operation Enduring Freedom. On Oct. 7, 2001, coalition forces, led by the United States, launched a military response in Afghanistan to track down Bin Laden and cripple his network of international terrorists.

Finally, Operation Iraqi Freedom, which began on March 19, 2003, sent coalition forces into Iraq to disarm the country of its weapons of mass destruction and to topple the Iraqi regime of Saddam Hussein.

In addition to these three troop involvements, Marshals Service reservists have participated in Operation Southern Watch. This operation enforced a no-fly zone for Hussein's air force in Southern Iraq, protecting Iraqis there from military bombing and strafing attacks.

Marshals Service personnel also serve in other locations across the globe. Among their international duty stations are Greece, England, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Ethiopia.

Domestically, they are stationed in North Carolina, Arkansas, Tennessee, Arizona, South Dakota and Colorado, to name a few.

Agency reservists serve in all branches of the U.S. military — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. And numerous individuals have been deployed

more than once since Sept. 11, 2001.

The diversity of their assignments is extensive. They are Army captains and Air Force majors and Coast Guard lieutenants. They serve as enlisted paramedics on Army Black Hawk helicopters, platoon sergeants in the streets of Iraq and directors of flight operations.

The total number of active duty guardsmen and reservists in the U.S. military is 194,000. As noted previously, 375 of these are current Marshals Service employees.

These numbers underscore the overall importance of what these citizen-soldiers bring to this conflict.

Mark Allen is the spokesman for the U.S. National Guard Bureau, which oversees the National Guard for both the U.S. Army and Air Force. He said the role of these reservists and guardsmen is changing.

"The National Guard used to be a strategic reserve. But it is now operational. And our people have become essential to the war fight.

"They understand what needs to be done and they do it."

He said these men and women — along with their counterparts in the other military branches —

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*The U.S. Marshals — America's oldest federal law enforcement agency.*

# Two hats, one goal

*Continued from previous page*

always saw themselves as a reliable source during natural disasters and civil disorders. But today they are a component of an international conflict.

"We now have a home game and an away game."

Throughout the Marshals Service, there is an enormous sense of respect for employees who serve dual careers in the military and law enforcement.

In Eastern Oklahoma, Deputy Lloyd Veleck has only been with the agency since March 2003, but his tenure as a deputy comes on the heels of several deployments as a sergeant in the Air National Guard to Turkey, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

His district values his efforts.

"He performs a service in the military and then he comes back here and performs a service for our agency," said Eastern Oklahoma Chief Deputy Don Abdallah. "I appreciate people like him."

In Western Missouri, Chief Deputy Tony Gasaway and his district honor the military commitment of Deputy Micheal Stokes, a first lieutenant in the Army National Guard.

"Even though it's a burden on the office [in terms of staffing], we need to take a look at the greater good for the country," Gasaway said. "We fully support his efforts on these missions. We are extremely proud of Mike that he can wear both hats as a deputy and also a reservist."

Several members of Western Missouri paid visits to Stokes' wife while he was away on military duty.

"That's part of being in the Marshals Service family," Chief Gasaway said.



*Laura Blunt is an assistant transportation coordinator in the Kansas City, Mo., scheduling office of the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System, but she is also a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve. Here she is looking up from inside the hole just south of Tikrit, Iraq, where Saddam Hussein was captured on Dec. 14, 2003.*

*Eastern Tennessee Deputy Sean Carney, far right, is a major in the U.S. Army Reserve. From March to November 2003, he served on active duty in southern Iraq and Kuwait.*



*Utah Deputy Bob Bradstreet, who serves as a staff sergeant in the Louisiana Air National Guard, takes in the view of the palace in Baghdad where Saddam Hussein's two sons lived. The building was renamed Victory Palace after being overtaken by coalition troops. Bradstreet, who donned his agency T-shirt for this photo, has since returned home to Utah.*

*Ingo Johnson, here pictured at the Kuwait/Iraq border, is a criminal clerk in the District of Oregon and also a major in the Oregon National Guard. He was an intelligence officer for the U.S. Army's V Corps in Kuwait and southern Iraq, and later was chief of security of the Logistical Support Area Anaconda, north of Baghdad.*





# In 1877, old feuds stoked an angry W.Va. mob

This article, written by Forrest Hull, was published in the Charleston (W.Va.) Daily Mail on Oct. 14, 1956. It was submitted by Southern West Virginia Deputy John Gainer, who said, "This piece reveals the general lawlessness that early marshals encountered."

When a flash of lightning came out of a clear sky on a summer day near the Roane-Jackson County line, the report was heard for miles around. Everyone wondered just where the freak bolt had struck. Four days later they found out. Beside an unfrequented road lay Waid Counts and his small son, both dead and their bodies badly burned by lightning.

Enemies of Waid Counts immediately declared his death "was the vengeance of the Almighty," because of certain bloody murders that occurred in that region. Just why divine power had struck down the young child who had committed no crimes whatever, the supersititious folks could not answer. They had long held the opinion that Counts was responsible for the wave of murders in Roane and Jackson, and they had awaited heaven to wreak vengeance. If anyone was around when heaven struck, it was just too bad.

The story of the Roane-Jackson County troubles is ancient history. It would probably be impossible to learn the facts at this late day. Guilty or innocent, Waid Counts was involved. So were many other old citizens. It all may have been a continuation of Civil War enmities, with the added traffic in moonshine liquor to fan them to murderous flame.

In August 1877, Nathan Cunningham, who had been a deputy marshal and agent for a timber company, was ambushed by a man hidden behind a big rock. He was shot in the breast and abdomen. Dying, he said to his 11-year-old son, who was with him: "Go home and tell your mother Waid Counts has killed me!" To the hidden assassin he called out: "Counts, don't kill my little boy!" A daughter who came to administer to him was not allowed to approach for three hours by the hidden murderer.

## People disagreed

The identity of the hidden assassin was a matter of speculation throughout the region. People took sides, quarreled, and out of it all came the deadly affair of Oct. 13, 1887.

Dan Cunningham, brother of the slain Nathan, was a U.S. deputy marshal. With J.E. Mehen of Parkersburg, another marshal, Cunningham conducted a series of moonshine raids near the county line of Roarie. A Rev. P.T. Ryan of Countsville, a Methodist minister, was said to have talked too freely with the raiding marshals. Threats were made, and on the night stated above, he was shot to death by a rifleman hidden by darkness

who fired through a window. On the following day, a mob surrounded the home of George Duff Jr. and although he defended himself, he was shot down and died. The next night the mob arrested Ches Coon and Bob Duff, a school teacher, and hanged Coon and cut Duff's throat.

Preacher Ryan had retired for the night when the mob surrounded his home. Ryan fired into the crowd. A volley from the strangers killed him. The fatal bullet passed through the wall, through the footboard of a bed, through Ryan's body and was imbedded in the other wall.

Ryan lived a few hours and said he recognized one of the mob but nothing was ever done about it. A brass shell found outside was said to fit a gun owned by a Counts. But nobody said it out loud. The mob was on the prowl.

Having a taste of blood, the mob appeared at the home of Robert Duff who was securely tied and taken away. Moving on to the home of George Duff Jr. they

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*This illustration appeared in the 1956 article in the Charleston Daily Mail. The caption reads: SLAYING OF DEPUTY MARSHAL CUNNINGHAM START OF BLOODY SERIES.*

## 1877 blood feud

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found him reading by a window. A volley was fired into the house. Duff tried to get out of the house but was felled by a rifle bullet. But he was able, with the help of a visitor, Ches Coon, to drive the mob away. Later Coon was captured and taken along with Robert Duff to the Ryan home and heavily guarded while the mob adjourned to the Lynn Camp schoolhouse to discuss a plan of action.

By this time, the news of the killings had drawn a great number of curious and morbid people from surrounding sections who joined the mob.

It was said that a relative of Ches Coon was leader of the band. The cruelties of the mob seem unreal to this day and age. Ches Coon put up a fight. He was a strong man and was flailing about manfully when a member of the mob, some said it was Waid Counts, ran up and cut Coon's throat with a knife.

Ches Coon was later hanged to a water beech tree with the rope just long enough to allow his toes to touch. All night he swayed with the rope around his neck while he begged for his life. In the morning he was dead, but the toes of his shoes were worn through and his toes bleeding.

### Justice rendered?

This revelry of crime ended in a few days, but the threats and recriminations went on for years. People were afraid to go outside their homes at night, and guns were carried openly by men at work. A few families moved out of the neighborhood to other counties.

No attempt, so far as is known, was made to apprehend the members of the mob. Many were known but, as explained, it was safer to keep silent. Several mysterious shootings occurred here and there along the Roane-Jackson border, and one farmer, en route from Charleston, was beaten to death by unknown assailants.

Dan Cunningham, who figured in the back county troubles, became in later years a widely known peace officer, and is remembered by many in the Charleston area.

Just what part Waid Counts, the Roane farmer, played, if any, in the killings and mob violence, in all probability will never be known. Certainly he was never convicted of any of the crimes of the period. But many old-timers pronounced the verdict 80 years ago that he came to his death from a bolt of lightning from a clear sky, "the vengeance of the Almighty."

## Regional task forces launch new era



*Attorney General Ashcroft swears in 37 state and local law enforcement officers who will serve on the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF) in Georgia. The SERFTF of Atlanta/Macon is one of four regional task forces, along with New York/New Jersey, Los Angeles/San Diego and Chicago/Hammond (Ind.). All four, under the authority of the Presidential Threat Protection Act of 2000, are directed and coordinated by the Marshals Service. These regional task forces combine the efforts of federal, state and local agencies to locate and arrest some of the country's most dangerous fugitives.*

## W/TX legs it out for Special Olympics



*Earlier this year, Western Texas Deputies [left to right] Pete Acosta, Bobby Hogeland and Dennis Collins supported the Special Olympics in their region by participating in the Law Enforcement Torch Run. The course covered 26.5 miles, and runners were from local, state and federal agencies. These three deputies, from the San Antonio office, were complimented by the local Special Olympics chairperson for "doing it the right way" and staying together as a team while keeping the torch held high throughout their entire two-mile segment of the Torch Run.*



# The Marshals Service remembers ...

## Earle McLaughlin

Former Vermont Marshal Earle "Buzz" McLaughlin, 82, of Burlington, Vt., died peacefully at his home on Dec. 2. Prior to his many years in law enforcement, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. From 1955-77, he was the sheriff of Chittenden County (Vt.). He was appointed as Vermont's marshal by President Carter in 1977 and he served in that capacity until 1982. He is survived by his wife Theresa and 11 children.

## Raymond Hoylman

Former Northern Ohio Supervisory Deputy Ray Hoylman, 74, died on Nov. 1. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He began his law enforcement career as a patrolman with the Ohio State police and then joined the Marshals Service as a deputy marshal in 1970. He retired from the Toledo office 20 years later, and then he continued on in the district as a court security officer. He is survived by his wife Genevieve and three daughters.

## Patrick McDonough

Former Connecticut Deputy Patrick McDonough died on Oct. 20. He began his Marshals Service career in 1974 and served the agency until retiring in 1996.

## Bob Courtright

On Oct. 3, former Colorado Chief Deputy Bob Courtright, 80, died. He served as chief deputy in Northern Iowa and then Colorado, retiring from the latter in 1981. He served his country during World War II in the 97th Infantry, seeing

duty in both Europe and Japan. After returning to his native Iowa, he worked as a detective for the Illinois Central Railroad for nine years before joining the Marshals Service as a deputy in 1961. He retired 20 years later, at which time he began performing some investigative work for the U.S. Department of Defense and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. As a youngster, he rode his pony to elementary school, which was the first school ever established in Webster County, Iowa. His first wife died in 1982. He is survived by his second wife Linda and three children from his first marriage. Said Bucky Burrows, vice president of the Retired U.S. Marshals Association: "Bob was very well liked and proud of his many accomplishments, including his roles in providing security for Harry Truman in 1958 and standing tall during the riots at Ole Miss in 1962. He will indeed be missed by all who knew him."

## Leonard Durocher

Retired Northern Ohio Deputy Leonard "Leo" Durocher, 83, died on Nov. 7, in Parkersburg, W.Va., where he lived for 25 years. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1941-61. He began his Marshals Service career in Northern Ohio but retired from Northern West Virginia. A highlight from his career came in the late 1960s. He, of course, shared the same name with the famed baseball player and manager. A fellow Northern Ohio deputy, Mel McDowell, also had a famous baseball surname at the time — that of Cleveland Indians pitcher Sam McDowell. One night, the two deputies were sent to a Cleveland hotel room to serve a summons on New York Yankees star slugger

Mickey Mantle. When the two men knocked on Mantle's door and announced that they were "Durocher and McDowell," Mantle quipped, "You brought your own team." Durocher is survived by a son and a daughter.

## Edward King

Edward King, former marshal in Western New York, recently died. He served as marshal from 1970-78.

## Billie McDaniel

Billie McDaniel, former administrative officer in Northern Alabama, died in early September. She began her career with the Marshals Service in 1979 and retired in 1999. She is survived by her husband Jim and a daughter.

## William Stepro

Former Western Kentucky Deputy William Stepro died on Oct. 2. He was 83. He spent 27 years in the U.S. Army. He began his career with the Marshals Service in 1970 and later retired in 1978. He is survived by his wife Martha, a son and a daughter.

## Cadett Robinson

Cadett Robinson, travel analyst in the Management and Budget Division at Marshals Service headquarters, died on Dec. 15. He was 51. Prior to coming to the agency, he worked as a civilian for the Department of the Air Force from 1983-94. Before that, he served on active duty in the Air Force from 1975-80. He is survived by his wife Nancy — who works in the agency's Office of General Counsel — and a son.

# Hal Hansell shines once again in Barcelona

## Oregon guard wins medals in bench press, shot put during int'l. event

District of Oregon contract guard Hal Hansell continues to travel the world in pursuit of athletic excellence. And by the looks of all the hardware in his medal case, his travels have been quite successful.

Hansell, 64, came to the Marshals Service in 1991 as an intermittent deputy marshal in the Eugene, Ore., office. Prior to that, he was an Oregon State Police officer for 28 years before retiring as a first sergeant.

In his current duties as a contract guard, he transports prisoners between jail and court.

His foray into official athletic competitions — the Oregon State Police and Fire Games — began when he was still a trooper. But when he joined the Marshals Service, he began competing on the international level at the World Police and Fire Games.

The World Games, held every other year, were created in 1985 by the California Police Athletic Federation to promote physical fitness within the police and firefighter fraternity worldwide.

In addition to the athletic contests, the Games incorporate exhibitions, symposiums and lectures on topics that are relevant to the athletes.

The first World Games were in San Jose, Calif., in 1985, and subsequent host cities have included: Colorado Springs, Colo.; Melbourne, Australia; Calgary, Canada; and Stockholm, Sweden.

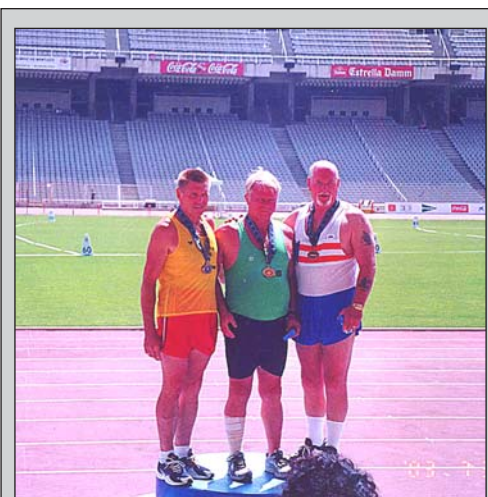
The competition, open to all active and retired peace officers and firefighters, is keen. Participants are divided up by age, and many are Olympic hopefuls from their respective countries.

Hansell specializes in three events — shot put, bench press and powerlifting. At this year's World Games in Barcelona, Spain, he won a gold medal in the bench press with a

lift of 175 pounds. He also won a bronze medal in the shot put with a put of 9.63 meters, or 31.6 feet.

Ten years ago in Colorado Springs, he bench pressed 330 pounds, but with the high temperatures in Barcelona this year, some of his strength was zapped.

"It was 98 degrees with 98 percent humidity," Hansell said. "I sweated like a horse."



*After placing third in the 2003 World Police and Fire Games shot put competition, former District of Oregon Deputy Hal Hansell, right, stands on the winners' podium in Barcelona, Spain, site of the 1992 Olympic Games. Hansell, who has amassed 23 athletic medals over the years, currently serves as a contract guard in the district's Eugene office. The gold and silver medals were won by a German and Bavarian police officer, respectively.*

Crowd attendance varies from event to event and city to city.

"Every place I've been, the locals have really backed the competitors. I can't think of any bad experiences over the years."

Unlike the Olympics, the World Games are not billed as contests between nations, but Hansell said national pride can come into play.

"When you get people in the crowd yelling 'U-S-A, U-S-A,' it gets you kind of pumped. You don't want to let

them down."

It's the challenge of it all that keeps Hansell training while most other retirees are slowing down, but there's more to his continued participation in the World Games than just sport.

"For me, it's the competition and the camaraderie," the amiable guard said. "I've made so many long-lasting friends over the years.

"My wife and I have stayed with friends we've met in other countries. And we just had visitors stay with us from Australia."

Fellow competitors establish relationships with one another, both professional and personal.

"You learn about what everyone else does for a living," he said.

The Hansells truly enjoy the traveling aspect of participating in the Games, and they take their vacations every other year based on the location of the competition.

"You see how other people live and how they get along."

Corporate sponsors foot most of the bill for the competitions. After paying the expenses associated with coordinating everything, Games organizers donate all proceeds to charity.

Ten thousand athletes competed in Barcelona, and Hansell said they poured \$75 million into the local economy. In 2005, the World Police and Fire Games will be held in Quebec City, Canada.

Hansell, who represents the Marshals Service during most official competitions, has earned the respect of his colleagues.

"Hal is superb," said Oregon Supervisory Deputy Brian Leavitt. "He's a great public relations person for our district and a great athlete as well."

Hansell plans to continue participating in the Games into the foreseeable future.

"I will compete as long as I can."

# N/TX makes FAST work of 108 local fugitives

Several law enforcement agencies combined forces during four intensive days of fugitive round-ups in Dallas/Ft. Worth, scouring the region with warrants in hand to clean the area of as many wanted criminals as possible.

And after the operation was complete, 108 state and local fugitives were in custody, with all of the arrests occurring without incident.

The Dallas County (Texas) Sheriff's Department was the lead agency for the round-ups. Northern Texas deputy marshals assisted in the

arrests, along with investigators from the Texas Attorney General's Office and agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The deputy marshals who participated were members of the Dallas/Ft. Worth Fugitive Apprehension Strike Team (DFW FAST). The Marshals Service is the lead agency for this team.

The operation was divided into two stages. Phase One occurred on Sept. 22 and 25, 2003. Phase Two took place on Dec. 8 and 11.

"These were massive raids," said Northern Texas Supervisory Deputy Marshal Trent Touchstone, one of 12 Marshals Service investigators to participate in the round-ups.

During Phase One, strike team members arrested 61 fugitives. These felons were wanted for crimes ranging from murder and aggravated assault to drug trafficking and parole violation.

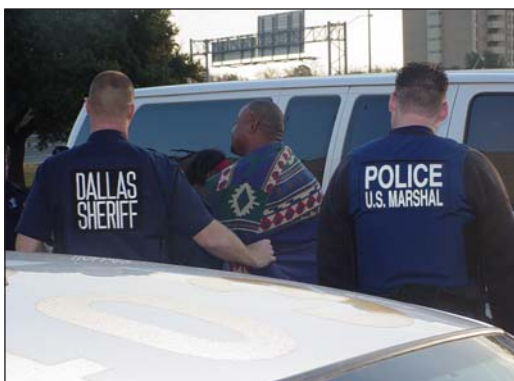
The recently completed Phase Two followed up those numbers by making 47 more arrests.

During both phases,

DFW FAST members — some 50 in all — also seized weapons and drugs from those who were arrested.

The fugitive round-ups were part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative in Northern Texas. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms heads up this project.

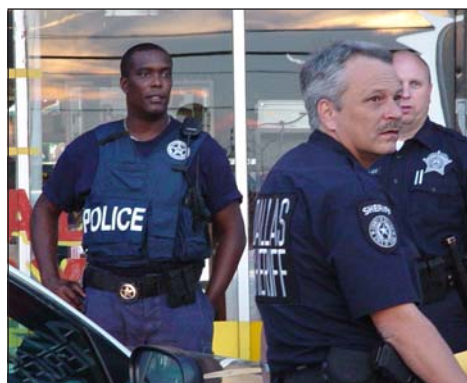
"We're not the lead agency [on these round-ups]," Touchstone said, "but our deputies help make arrests. And we submit proposals to the U.S. attorney to help these local agencies receive federal funding."



*During this Phase Two arrest on Dec. 8, 2003, Northern Texas Deputy Marshal Mike Mitchell, right, assists a Dallas County deputy sheriff.*



*Deputy Marshal Vicki Burge, left, looks on as Dallas County deputy sheriffs apply handcuffs to one of the 61 fugitives captured during Phase One's round-up.*



*Northern Texas Deputy Marshal Earl Jeffers, left, surveys the scene with two fellow DFW FAST colleagues during Phase One.*



*Deputy Marshal Richard Wilburn, right, assists his counterparts from Dallas County in this arrest. The DFW FAST apprehended 108 wanted criminals over four separate days.*